

c. 1860 are variously given. Mr. Eric Classey, in a recent catalogue states: "It is sometimes stated to have been published in two volumes but it apparently appeared in both forms."

I have now come across evidence that it was in fact published in monthly parts, but over what period of time is not yet known. This evidence is from a publisher's catalogue, "Baillière Brothers' catalogue of standard and recent books on all branches of Natural History". This extensive 48-page catalogue is bound up at the back of my copy of "The Complete writings of Thomas Say on the Entomology of North America". This is the 1859 edition, edited by John L. Le Conte. The catalogue entry for the Humphrey's book is as follows: —

Humphreys (H.N.) The Genera of British Moths popularly described and illustrated in a series of Picturesque Plates, exhibiting the Insects in their different stages, with the caterpillars on the plants on which they are generally found. Part 1, royal 8vo. (Published monthly) London 75. (The 75 stands for the price, 75 US cents, then worth 18p). It is perhaps also worth mentioning that on February 4th, 1860 Messrs. Baillière were advertising the Say book in "The Entomologist's Weekly Intelligencer".

Now it was very common practice in the nineteenth century to publish books in parts and then finally to issue a bound volume. (Sometimes "half" volumes were issued.) This then explains the doubt about whether it was published in one or two volumes. It is my opinion that it was published in parts and then issued as one volume in a publisher's binding. Persons who had bought the parts would, when completed, have them bound according to their individual preference. No second volume title page was apparently issued, and all two volume sets I have seen have been in differing (often sumptuous) bindings, while nearly all one volume issues have been in the publisher's decorated cloth binding, usually in very poor condition. There seems now no doubt that 1859 can be fixed as at any rate the commencement of publication. What we need now is for someone to produce a copy still "in parts as issued". — B. O. C. GARDINER, A.R.C. Unit of Invertebrate Chemistry and Physiology, Department of Zoology, Downing Street, Cambridge.

THE FLAME WAINSCOT (MELIANA FLAMMEA CURT.) NEAR EASTBOURNE. — On the 14th June, 1978, I took a specimen of this rare wainscot at rest on the top of a reed on Pevensey Levels, near Eastbourne. There are no previous records for Eastbourne, although I believe it has once or twice been taken before in the county. — M. PARSONS, 43 Kings Avenue, Eastbourne, East Sussex.

LEISTUS RUFOMARGINATUS DUFT. (COL.: CARABIDAE) IN S.E. LONDON, E. KENT AND SUSSEX. This interesting ground-beetle has been spreading steadily over eastern and parts of southern England since first taken here in 1942, but there

appears to be no record for the immediate environs of London — the nearest known to me being Banstead, Surrey (cf. Allen, 1968, *Ent. mon. Mag.*, **104**:9). The long-sustained hope of turning it up on my home territory was at last realised this year when, on 9th June, a male specimen was found at the roots of a birch tree in Maryon Wilson Park, Charlton. (Occupying the same habitat where the Carabids *Pterostichus madidus* F., *Nebria brevicollis* F., and *Calathus piceus* Marsh. — all single specimens.) As far as I am aware, the only other finds of the *Leistus* in West Kent were at Sevenoaks: One Tree Hill (R. Crowson — the original British example) and Knole Park in 1967 (S. A. Williams).

L. rufomarginatus has not, I think, been hitherto noted from East Kent, but my friend the late G. Shephard twice took it in the early 1970s at St. Margaret's Bay. The situation where it occurred is remote in character from the "well-lit beech woods" the species is said to favour, being on the exposed sea cliffs in an area lacking vegetation and with only lumps of bare chalk for cover, where the ground-beetle *Laemostenus complanatus* Dej. predominates. Further, I can report the *Leistus* from Sussex, apparently a new county record — Mr. R. D. Dumbrell having met with it in the Eastbourne district from 1968 onwards. — A. A. ALLEN.

THE EMPEROR MOTH IN NORTH-WEST KENT. — Mrs. Margaret Morris, of Bexley, asked me to identify a large caterpillar which she had observed on bramble, on a railway embankment near the centre of Bexley Village on 10th August, 1978. Her description fitted the larva of the Emperor Moth (*Saturnia pavonia* Linn.), and I was able to confirm my tentative identification on 11th August, when I found six larvae. Another one was found on 13th August. All were feeding on the leaves on the lower stems of the bramble, and none was higher than 2 feet above ground level. The larvae were obviously nearing the pupal stage, and two started to spin their cocoons on 13th August.

I find it interesting that the Emperor should exist in what has become a suburb of outer London. Its presence may not be unconnected with the fact that the Newman Butterfly Farm used to be located on the other side of the railway line, but as the farm moved some years ago the moth cannot now be regarded as an escapee, even if it did originally come from there.—I. L. BRYDON, 128 The Drive, Bexley, Kent, DA5 3BX.

ACRONICTA ALNI (L.) AT HAM STREET, KENT. — On the night of 3rd June, 1978, I operated my m.v. trap at Ham Street, and amongst the 60 or so different species of macrolepidoptera to come to light was a fine specimen of *A. alni*. The night was warm and almost windless, and among other species of interest were *Pseudoips fagana* (F.), *Drymonia dodonaea* (D. & S.), *Peridea anceps* (Goeze), *Stauropus fagi* (L.). It was interesting to note seven species of "Prominent" amongst the 280 moths that came. — D. DEY, 9 Monmouth Close, Rainham, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 7BQ.